

#### USDA - NASS Louisiana Field Office

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# LOUISIANA FARM REPORTER

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## **HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS REPORT**

Winter Wheat Production 2005 Sugarcane and Sweet Potato Production Revisions

## **U.S. Wheat Production**

Winter Wheat production is forecast at 1.26 billion bushels, down 4 percent from the May 1 forecast and down 16 percent from 2005. Based on June 1 conditions, the U.S. yield is forecast at 40.5 bushels per acre, down 1.9 bushels from the previous forecast. Grain area totals 31.2 million acres, unchanged from last month. As of May 28, heading had reached 79 percent in the 18 major states, 2 percentage points above the 5-year average. Progress was significantly ahead of normal during the first part of the month due primarily to above average temperatures, but was almost even with the 5-year average by the end of the month. Harvest was underway in the southern-most portions of the growing area.

Forecasted head counts from the objective yield survey are below last year's levels in the Hard Red Winter states (Colorado, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Oklahoma and Texas). Condition ratings declined in the central and southern Great Plains States during May due primarily to continued drought conditions. Harvest was in full swing in both Texas and Oklahoma, with progress in Oklahoma running well ahead of normal. In Texas, wheat production is forecast to be the lowest since 1971. Oklahoma wheat production is forecast at the lowest level since 1957. In Kansas, disease pressure is slightly above normal and localized frost damage from a late April

freeze in the western and north central growing regions affected yield potential. Farther north, soil moisture remains a concern in Nebraska and South Dakota. In Montana, the crop remains in good condition, but was affected by above normal temperatures and high winds. Yield prospects are down from the previous month in all states in the HRW growing area except for Oklahoma.

In the Soft Red Winter states, forecasted head counts from the objective yield survey are above last year's level in Illinois and Missouri but below in Ohio. Condition ratings in Ohio declined due to cool and wet weather during May. In Missouri, harvest progress is ahead of normal and the crop is in good condition. Overall, yield prospects across the SRW growing area remain good. Record high yields are forecast in Tennessee, Kentucky and Illinois.

In the Pacific Northwest states, yields are down from the previous month in Idaho but unchanged in Washington and Oregon. Forecasted head counts from the objective yield survey in Washington are below last year's final counts. In Oregon and Idaho, winter wheat remains in good condition and above normal snow pack should continue to provide ample irrigation water supplies.

**Durum Wheat** production in Arizona and California is forecast at a collective 13.0 million bushels, up 2 percent from May 1 but 10 percent below the 2005 total of 14.5 million bushels. In California, the harvest is nearly complete. A cool growing season allowed for good grain fill and better yields than last year.

June 1, 2006 Crop Report, Winter Wheat

	Area Harvested		Yield		Production		
		Ind		Ind		Ind	
<b>Selected States</b>	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	
	1,000 Acres		Busl	nels	1,000 Bushels		
Arkansas	160	300	52.0	55.0	8,320	16,500	
Colorado	2,200	2,000	24.0	23.0	52,800	46,000	
Kansas	9,500	9,400	40.0	31.0	380,000	291,400	
Louisiana	100	1/	48.0	1/	4,800	1/	
Mississippi	65	70	50.0	55.0	3,250	3,850	
Oklahoma	4,000	3,100	32.0	22.0	128,000	68,200	
Texas	3,000	1,300	32.0	25.0	96,000	32,500	
<b>United States</b>	33,794	31,177	44.4	40.5	1,499,129	1,263,766	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Not available until September 2006.

## Louisiana Sugarcane

Sugarcane production for sugar and seed in 2005 totaled 10.4 million tons, 6 percent below the 2004 production. Harvested acreage for sugar and seed totaled 455,000 acres, 10,000 acres below 2004. The average yield per acre was 22.9 tons, down 0.9 ton from 2004.

## **U. S. Sugarcane Production**

Production of sugarcane for sugar and seed in 2005 was revised to 26.6 million tons, down 2 percent from the March 1 estimate, down 8 percent from 2004, and the lowest production since 1979. Area harvested for sugar and seed totaled 922,600 acres, fractionally below the previous estimate and 2 percent below 2004. The estimated yield of cane for sugar and seed is 28.8 tons per acre, 0.8 ton below March and 2.1 tons below the 2004 yield.

Production decreased in all states from the previous year, with the largest declines in Florida and Louisiana due to the effects of hurricanes Katrina, Rita and Wilma. Though area harvested for sugar decreased by 21,300 acres from 2004, area harvested for seed was up by 5,700 acres. As a result of lower yields and the acreage shift, production for sugar declined by 9 percent from 2004, while production for seed rose by 6 percent.

Sugarcane For Sugar and Seed: Acreage, Yield and Production

	Area Harvested		Yield <sup>1</sup>		Production <sup>1</sup>		
	2004	$2005^{2}$	2004	$2005^{2}$	2004	$2005^{2}$	
State	1,000 Acres		Tons		1,000 Tons		
For Sugar							
Florida	385.0	376.0	34.9	31.4	13,437	11,806	
Hawaii	21.8	21.7	90.8	80.7	1,979	1,751	
Louisiana	430.0	420.0	23.8	22.9	10,234	9,618	
Texas	42.7	40.5	37.3	38.3	1,593	1,551	
United States	879.5	858.2	31.0	28.8	27,243	24,726	
For Seed							
Florida	21.0	25.0	40.2	37.6	844	940	
Hawaii	1.4	2.5	33.5	25.0	47	63	
Louisiana	35.0	35.0	23.8	22.9	833	802	
Texas	1.3	1.9	35.0	38.3	46	73	
United States	58.7	64.4	30.2	29.2	1,770	1,878	
For Sugar and Seed							
Florida	406.0	401.0	35.2	31.8	14,281	12,746	
Hawaii	23.2	24.2	87.3	75.0	2,026	1,814	
Louisiana	465.0	455.0	23.8	22.9	11,067	10,420	
Texas	44.0	42.4	37.3	38.3	1,639	1,624	
United States	938.2	922.6	30.9	28.8	29,013	26,604	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Yield and production refer to net weight.

Sugarcane for Sugar and Seed: Price and Value

		For Sugar						
	Price Per Ton		Value of Production		Value of Production <sup>1</sup>			
State	2004	2005 <sup>2</sup>	2004	$2005^{2}$	2004	$2005^{2}$		
	Doll	Dollars		1,000 Dollars				
Florida	30.30		407,141		432,714			
Hawaii	31.10		61,547		63,009			
Louisiana	25.30		258,920		279,995			
Texas	27.70		44,126		45,400			
<b>United States</b>	28.30		771,734		821,118			

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Price per ton of cane for sugar used in evaluating value of production for seed.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Revised.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Estimates are not available. State estimates will be published in "Crop Values," February 2007.

## **Louisiana Sweet Potatoes**

Louisiana farmers planted 18,000 acres of sweet potatoes in 2005, up 2,000 acres from the previous year. Harvested area totaled 17,000 acres, while yield per acre averaged 145 cwt. Production was estimated at 2.47 million cwt, 6 percent above the previous year's total.

## **U. S. Sweet Potato Production**

Sweet Potato production for the 2005 crop year is revised to 15.7 million cwt, down slightly from the annual estimate made in January and down 2 percent from 2004. Area harvested, at 88,400 acres, is up 1 percent from January but down 5 percent from 2004. The average yield, at 178 cwt per acre, is down 1 cwt from the January estimate but 4 cwt above 2004. This is the largest yield on record, surpassing the previous record high of 174 cwt set in 2004.

The sweet potato crop estimate in California, at 3.34 million cwt, is down 5 percent from January based on a 15 cwt per acre decrease in yield. Mississippi production increased 4 percent due to an increase in acreage. South Carolina production decreased 5 percent based on reduced acres. Texas production is up 30 percent from January due to yields being higher than expected but still below the average. The below average yield is due to drought conditions during the 2005 growing season.

## **Sweet Potatoes**

	Area Planted		Area Harvested		Yield		Production	
State	2004	2005 <sup>1</sup>	2004	2005 <sup>1</sup>	2004	2005 <sup>1</sup>	2004	$2005^{1}$
	1,000 Acres			(	Cwt	1,000 Cwt		
Alabama	2.8	2.7	2.3	2.5	165	150	380	375
California	11.5	11.7	11.5	11.7	280	285	3,220	3,335
Louisiana	16.0	18.0	15.5	17.0	150	145	2,325	2,465
Mississippi	16.0	17.4	15.3	17.3	170	180	2,601	3,114
New Jersey	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	140	130	168	156
North Carolina	45.0	36.0	43.0	35.0	160	170	6,880	5,950
South Carolina	1.0	0.9	0.8	0.8	120	160	96	128
Texas	3.0	2.7	2.8	2.6	140	65	392	169
Virginia	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3	125	125	50	38
United States	96.9	91.0	92.8	88.4	174	178	16,112	15,730

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Revised.

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